

Recently the Curtis Media Group has acquired several AM radio stations in the Raleigh-Durham and other NC markets; the programming options at some of these stations has suffered as a result. They have two stations- 570 and 620 (WDNC)- that have the same programming much of the day. Before WDNC became a Curtis station the G. Gordon Liddy Show offered an alternative to Dr. Laura; now Liddy isn't available and Dr Laura is carried simultaneously on the two aforementioned stations. CMG owns WPTF, their most powerful station, the flagship station for which they invest in the most expensive programming. It seems that they feel that if they provided better programs at their other station they might cannibalize the ratings of WPTF. I don't favor excessive regulation, but this seems a case where reduced competition has given consumers fewer options, and less diversity of viewpoints. As long as so many of the AM stations are held by one company listeners will continue having fewer choices.